

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined ("____") being added and the language that contains strikethrough ("—") being deleted:

1. – 23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A logical port configuration system comprising:

a first communication port configured to send a first request message to a server computing element;

a monitoring component configured to monitor the first communication port for an acknowledgement message from the server computing component; and

a testing component configured to, in response to an acknowledgement message being received, initiate a port test at the first communication port, the port test configured to facilitate interaction between the client computing element and the server computing element,

wherein, during the port test, the server computing element communicatively interacts with the client computing element to discover a port status of the first communication port, the first communication port of the client computing element being associated with an application program operative on the client computing ~~element.~~ element, wherein in response to an acknowledgement message not being received, a determination is made whether a timeout timer has expired, and wherein in response to a determination that the timeout timer has expired, a second request message is sent to the server computing component, via a secondary communications port.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 24, wherein the server computing element configured to receive a test initiation command that is transmitted by the client computing element using a first Internet Protocol socket.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, wherein the client computing element is configured to communicatively interact with the server computing element using a time-out message.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the port test further comprises discovering a port status of a the second port of the client computing element, the second port of the client computing element being associated with the application program operative on the client computing element.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, wherein the first port is a uni-directional port of the client computing element and the second port is a bi-directional port of the client computing element.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein the client computing element generates a status report comprising the status of the first and second ports of the client computing element.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, wherein the status report further comprises instructions to a user to configure the first port of the client computing element to enable the client computing element to communicatively couple to a remote client computing element when using the application program.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30, wherein the client computing element communicates with the server computing element through a router.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the status report further comprises instructions to a user to configure the router.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein the client computing element communicates with the router to obtain operating information of the router.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30, wherein the application program is an audio-video chat program.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the audio-video chat program is a video chat program.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35, wherein the client computing element further contains a database comprising a port information of a plurality of ports, for operating the application program.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the port information comprises a plurality of port identifiers and a plurality of network transport protocols operative on the plurality of ports.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36, wherein the application program uses a transport control protocol (TCP) on the first port of the client computing element and a user datagram protocol (UDP) on a second port of the client computing element.

39. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer-readable-medium~~ system for port configuration, comprising:

a processor;

first communication port configured to send a first request message to a server computing element; and

a memory, coupled to the processor, comprising:

monitoring logic configured to monitor the first communication port for an acknowledgement message from the server computing component; and

testing logic configured to, in response to an acknowledgement message being received, initiate a port test at the first communication port, the port test configured to facilitate interaction between the client computing element and the server computing element,

wherein, during the port test, the server computing element communicatively interacts with the client computing element to discover a port status of the first communication port, the first communication port of the client computing element being associated with an application program operative on the client computing element; element, wherein in response to an acknowledgement message not being received, a determination is made whether a timeout timer has expired, and wherein in response to a determination that the timeout timer has expired, a second request message is sent to the server computing component, via a secondary communications port.

40. (Currently Amended) The ~~computer-readable-medium~~ system of claim 39, wherein the server computing element configured to receive a test initiation command that is transmitted by the client computing element using a first Internet Protocol socket.

41. (Currently Amended) A method for port configuration, comprising:

 sending a first request message to a server computing element;

 monitoring the first communication port for an acknowledgement message from the server computing component; and

 initiating, in response to an acknowledgement message being received, a port test at the first communication port, the port test configured to facilitate interaction between the client computing element and the server computing element,

 wherein, during the port test, the server computing element communicatively interacts with the client computing element to discover a port status of the first communication port, the first communication port of the client computing element being associated with an application program operative on the client computing element. element, wherein in response to an acknowledgement message not being received, a determination is made whether a timeout timer has expired, and wherein in response to a determination that the timeout timer has expired, a second request message is sent to the server computing component, via a secondary communications port.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the server computing element configured to receive a test initiation command that is transmitted by the client computing element using a first Internet Protocol socket.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising monitoring the secondary communications port to determine whether an acknowledgement is received.